

Stone Hill Winery
401 West Twelfth Street
Hermann
Gasconade County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-255

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

STONE HILL WINERY

HABS No. MO-255

Location: 401 West Twelfth Street, Hermann, Gasconade County, Missouri.

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. James Held and Mr. and Mrs. William Harrison.

Present Occupant: Mr. and Mrs. James Held/Stone Hill Winery.

Present Use: Residence/winery.

Significance: Wine production has always been an important part of Hermann's economy. A small private winery established by Michael Poeschel in 1847 grew into Stone Hill Wine Company, the most successful of Hermann's commercial wineries. Building began on the present site in 1861. The original complex included the shipping cellars built that year and a residence-company office building built in 1869. Before it was closed by Prohibition, the winery was reported to be the third largest in the world and the second largest in the United States. Used for mushroom culture for many years, the original winery complex was recently returned to the production of wine on a limited scale.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1861. Michael Poeschel purchased the property on which the winery is built in 1860. Both the history of the county and a brochure published on the sixty-fifth anniversary of the winery date the shipping cellars to 1861.

Residence-office building: 1869. The history of the county and the sixty-fifth anniversary brochure give 1869 as the year that the residence-office building was constructed. County tax records confirm this date by showing an increase in assessed valuation at this time. A view of the town of Hermann from the Missouri River drawn by A. Rugers in 1869 includes both the shipping cellars and the residence-office building.

2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The winery is built on blocks 7, 8, and B in Stark's Subdivision, Hermann, Missouri. The plat of this subdivision was approved October 1, 1932. The property was formerly described as the greater part of the south half of the

northeast quarter of Section 35, Township 46, Range 5 west,
Gasconade County, Missouri. The following references to the
title of this land are recorded in the Gasconade County,
Missouri Deed Books.

- 1860 Warranty Deed Frederich Fischer and Victoria his wife
 to Michael Poeschel
 Date signed: May 1, 1860
 Date filed: June 6, 1860
 Book N Page 322
 Consideration: \$2,500.00
- 1878 Warranty Deed Michael Poeschel and wife to William
 Herzog and George Starck
 Date signed: April 1, 1878
 Date filed: April 9, 1878
 Book Z Page 449
 Consideration: \$15,000.00
- 1885 Quit-Claim Deed William Herzog and Aurelia his wife to
 George Starck
 Date signed: March 14, 1885
 Date filed: March 14, 1885
 Book 6 Page 409
 Consideration: \$200.00
- 1885 Quit-Claim Deed George Starck to William Herzog and
 Aurelia his wife
 Date signed: March 14, 1885
 Date filed: March 14, 1885
 Book 6 Page 410
 Consideration: \$200.00
- 1886 Quit-Claim Deed William Herzog and Aurelia his wife to
 George Starck
 Date signed: March 20, 1886
 Date filed: March 20, 1886
 Book 6 Page 458
 Consideration: \$100.00
- 1886 Quit-Claim Deed George Starck to William Herzog and
 Aurelia his wife
 Date signed: March 20, 1886
 Date filed: March 20, 1886
 Book 6 Page 459
 Consideration: \$100.00
- 1893 Warranty Deed William Herzog to George Starck
 Date signed: November 20, 1893
 Date filed: November 22, 1893
 Book 16 Page 368
 Consideration: \$1.00 and other good and
 valuable considerations

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1898	Warranty Deed	George Starck and wife Laura to Stone Hill Wine Company Date signed: June 29, 1898 Date filed: June 30, 1898 Book 22 Page 439 Consideration: \$20,000.00
1917	Warranty Deed	Stark Heirs, Louis Stark and wife Mae, Ottmar Stark and wife Helen, Ollie Stark Hunter and husband Lee to Stark Realty and Investment Company Date signed: November 7, 1917 Date filed: March 25, 1918 Book 45 Page 638 Consideration: \$1.00 and other good and valuable considerations
1919	Warranty Deed	Stone Hill Wine Company to Stark Realty and Investment Company Date signed: December 20, 1919 Date filed: December 29, 1919 Book 51 Page 222 Consideration: \$30,700.00
1927	Warranty Deed	Stark Realty and Investment Company to Stone Hill Farms Incorporated Date signed: November 25, 1927 Date filed: January 9, 1928 Book 57 Page 167 Consideration: \$1,520.00
1928	Warranty Deed	Stark Realty and Investment Company to Stone Hill Farms Incorporated Date signed: August 31, 1928 Date filed: November 16, 1928 Book 57 Page 321 Consideration: \$25,000.00
1932	Deed of Trust	Stone Hill Farms Incorporated, by its president W. W. Boyd to James A. McVoy, Trustee for Central States Life Insurance Company Date signed: July 21, 1932 Date filed: August 12, 1932 Book 62 Page 455 Consideration: \$32,412.33 loan
1932	Trustee's Deed	Stone Hill Farms Incorporated to Central States Life Insurance Company Date signed: November 18, 1932 Date filed: November 25, 1932 Book 62 Page 529

1932	Warranty Deed	Central States Life Insurance Company to Apartments Holding Company Date signed: December 23, 1932 Date filed: December 31, 1932 Book 62 Page 545 Consideration: \$10.000
1933	Warranty Deed	Apartments Holding Company to Central States Life Insurance Company Date signed: April 4, 1933 Date filed: April 7, 1933 Book 62 Page 582 Consideration: \$10.00
1941	Warranty Deed	Central States Life Insurance Company to Mutual Savings Life Insurance Company Date signed: September 27, 1941 Date filed: December 23, 1941 Book 71 Page 529 Consideration: \$1.00 and other good and valuable considerations
1944	Warranty Deed	Mutual Savings Life Insurance Company to Bart P. Dyer and Florence his wife Date signed: June 12, 1944 Date filed: July 6, 1944 Book 75 Page 547 Consideration: \$10.00
1954	Warranty Deed	Bart Dyer and Florence his wife to William Harrison and Mary his wife Date signed: June 30, 1954 Date filed: August 8, 1855 Book 92 Page 279 Consideration: \$10.00 and other good and valuable considerations
1967	Warranty Deed	William Harrison and wife to Old Stone Hill Incorporated Date signed: December , 1967 Date filed: December 29, 1967 Book 116 Page 345 Consideration: \$5.00
1970	Warranty Deed	William Harrison and wife to Old Stone Hill Inc. Date signed: February 26, 1970 Date filed: March 9, 1970 Book 124 Page 398 Consideration: \$10.00

1970	Trust Deed	Leon J. Held to William Harrison Date signed: February 28, 1970 Date filed: March 9, 1970 Book 121 Page 632 Consideration: \$40,000.00 loan
1970	Warranty Deed	William Harrison and wife to Leon J. Held and wife Date signed: February 28, 1970 Date filed: March 9, 1970 Book 124 Page 397 Consideration: \$10.00
1973	Trust Deed	Leon J. Held and wife to Old Stone Hill Inc. Date signed: June 7, 1973 Date filed: June 11, 1973 Book 136 Page 512 Consideration: \$11,000.00
1973	Warranty Deed	Old Stone Hill Inc. to Leon J. Held and wife Date signed: June 6, 1973 Date filed: June 19, 1973 Book 137 Page 90 Consideration: \$10.00
1973	Trust Deed	Leon J. Held and wife to William Harrison and wife Date signed: June 28, 1973 Date filed: August 17, 1973 Book 136 Page 838 Consideration: \$27,000.00
1973	Warranty Deed	William Harrison and wife to Old Stone Hill Incl. Date signed: July 22, 1973 Date filed: August 17, 1973 Book 137 Page 564 Consideration: \$10.00
1973	Warranty Deed	William Harrison and wife to Leon J. Held and wife Date signed: August 20, 1973 Date filed: April 9, 1973 Book 135 Page 436 Consideration \$10.00
1975	Warranty Deed	William Harrison and wife to Old Stone Hill Inc. Date signed: January 27, 1975 Date filed: January 30, 1975 Book 144 Page 334 Consideration: \$10.00

1975 Quit-Claim Deed Old Stone Hill Inc. to William Harrison
and wife
Date signed: February 20, 1975
Date filed: February 21, 1975
Book 144 Page 431
Consideration:

4. Original plans and construction: No original plans of Stone Hill Winery have been located. The winery is included in A. Rutgers 1869 view of the town from the Missouri River, E. Robyn's 1867 view of Hermann from the Missouri River, an 1888 engraving of the complex seen from the northwest in a history of the county, and a 1912 engraving of the residence-office building in the company's sixty-fifth anniversary brochure. An undated photograph of Stone Hill employees on the front steps shows the original doorway. Sanborn Perris Insurance Maps of 1892, 1898, 1908, and 1917 document the expansion of the complex during its most productive years. The original complex included only the shipping cellars and the residence-office building, which originally had a porch, with balcony above, extending across the front and sides.
5. Alterations and additions: By 1888, the winery complex was complete. It included a one story brick processing plant, the upper cellars east of the residence-office building, a bottling house above the original shipping cellars, the Twelve Apostles cellar south of the bottling house, a gazebo northeast of the residence-office building, and a barrel shop behind it.

Between 1888 and 1892, the processing plant was made two stories high, the porch, with balcony above, extending around three sides of the residence-office building had been removed and the gazebo was torn down. Before 1892, a room was added to the rear of the residence-office building on the west forming a U. There was probably a room above the area in between this addition and the original eastern rear room. Windows in the original structure were bricked in at this time.

Between 1892 and 1898, a brick arch was added to the first floor area between the rear additions to the residence-office building, a barrel and box joining building was erected to the west of the original shipping cellar, a one story frame extension was added to the north end of the shipping cellar, a small frame bottle storage building was added to the west of the bottling house, and the bottling house itself was expanded by the addition of a brick section to the east side and a frame section to the west side. A stable was erected west of the residence-office building. The first story of the stable was brick and the second story frame. A granary was erected west of the stable. A one story building for storage was built east of the barrel shop behind the press room, and a buggy shed was erected north of the west end of the processing plant.

Between 1898 and 1908, the frame extension of the shipping cellar was removed and a barrel storage and cooper shop built in its place perpendicular to the axis of the cellars. The barrel shop and storage buildings behind the residence-office building were combined into one large storage building. A pipe shop and weighing and crushing room were added to the front of the press room. The barn was enlarged by the addition of a hay storage area on its west side. The brick extension of the bottling house was enlarged.

Between 1908 and 1917, a frame structure for the storage of empty cases was added in the area between the weighing and crushing room and the west side of the residence-office building.

Between 1912 and 1917, several out buildings were erected west of the main complex.

Between 1923 and 1937, the south end of the bottling house was removed to allow a drive to pass between the bottling house and the Twelve Apostles cellar.

In the 1940s, the additions to the front of the original processing plant: the pipe shop, weighing and crushing room, and the empty case storage area were torn down.

In 1960 or shortly thereafter, the brick structure above the Twelve Apostles cellar was partially torn down. Only the north and south walls of this building remain.

Sometime after 1912, the wooden stairs to the door on the eastern rear room of the residence-office building were removed.

The front door has either been repaired or altered. The original door had an engaged column at the center while the present door has a pilaster in that position.

The flashing on the chimneys of the residence-office building indicates that the pitch of the roof has been changed.

The original buildings were probably roofed with wooden shingles. They now have bent seam sheet metal coverings.

The balcony above the doorway of the residence-office building was added by Mr. William Harrison. It comes from St. Charles Hall in Hermann, and replaces a wooden portico added when the original porch and balcony were removed.

B. Historical Context:

Michael Poeschel was one of three brothers who came to Hermann with the first settlers. All three set up small family wineries, but only Michael Poeschel's was successful enough to expand. In 1861,

he went into partnership with John Scherer and began construction on the present site of the winery. By 1878, Poeschel and Scherer acquired two junior partners, William Herzog and George Stark. Herzog and Stark took sole ownership of the winery in 1883 and Stone Hill Wine Company was incorporated in 1889. The winery established by Michael Poeschel in 1847 grew to be the second largest in the United States and provided employment for many Hermann residents. It is the only one of Hermann's commercial wineries to survive Prohibition. Wine is again being produced in the underground cellars on a limited scale.

PART II. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Primary and unpublished sources:

County Tax Records, 1854, 1866-1900, in vault on second floor, Gasconade County Courthouse, East First Street between Market and Schiller Streets, Hermann, Missouri (key in care of the County Clerk)

Deeds, Office of the County Recorder, Gasconade County Courthouse, East First Street between Schiller and Market Streets, Hermann, Missouri

1869 bird's eye view of Hermann from the Missouri River, drawn by A. Rutgers, Pommer-Gentner House, 108 Market Street, Hermann, Missouri (owned by The Brush and Palette Club, 411 Market Street, Hermann, Missouri)

1867 panoramic view of Hermann from the Missouri River, lithograph by Edward Robyn, Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Building, St. Louis 12, Missouri (a photograph of this lithograph is in the Hermann Historic District file, State Planning and Survey Office, Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, Missouri)

Sanborn Perris Insurance Maps, 1892, 1898, 1908, 1917, Third floor east, Elmer Ellis Library, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri

Interview, Mr. and Mrs. William Harrison, August 12, 1975, alterations

Files of State Planning and Survey Office, Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, Missouri

National Register Inventory and Nomination Form, 1969, Stone Hill Winery nominated as a Historic District, accepted

B. Secondary of unpublished sources:

Bek, William, The German Settlement Society of Philadelphia and Its Colony Hermann, (Americana Germanica Press, Philadelphia: 1907)

Hesse, Anna, Centenarians of Brick, Wood, and Stone, Hermann, Missouri, (Anna Hesse, 1969)

Sixty-fifth Anniversary booklet, published by Stone Hill Wine Company, 1912 (State Historical Society Library, Columbia, Missouri)

History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford, and Gasconade Counties, (Goodspeed Publishing Company, Chicago, Ill.: 1888)

Prepared by: Nanette M. Linderer
Project Historian
Summer 1975

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Hermann, Missouri, project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey, under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, with cooperation of Historic Hermann, Incorporated. Recording was carried out during the summer of 1975 by Clayton B. Fraser (HABS Washington Office), Project Supervisor; Nanette M. Linderer (University of Missouri at Columbia), Project Historian; and Student Architects Edward C. Freeman (Arizona State University), Jean C. Parker (Columbia University), and Donnie G. Seale (University of Florida). The photographs were taken in April and May 1983, by HABS/HAER Photographer Jet Lowe.

An addendum to:
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